

Application Procedures
Compensation for Death of Volunteer Rescue Squad Worker Killed in the Line of Duty

Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-51-207 authorizes a payment of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to the estate of any volunteer rescue squad worker killed in the line of duty.

To be eligible for compensation, each of the following criteria must be met:

1. The deceased volunteer rescue squad worker must have been trained in emergency and rescue work and performed such work without compensation in a unit that is equipped to address such situations; and
2. The deceased volunteer rescue squad worker's death must have occurred while "in the line of duty" defined as "in the course of duty and in the actual discharge of the duties of the position."

To receive compensation conferred by this statute, the executor, administrator or other appropriate representative of the estate of a volunteer rescue squad worker who was killed in the line of duty must apply to the Commissioner of the Department of Commerce and Insurance.

An application for compensation shall include the following documentation:

1. A cover letter from the applicant requesting the payment;
2. Proof that the applicant is authorized to act on behalf of the deceased volunteer rescue squad worker's estate (e.g., letters testamentary or letters of administration);
3. A notarized and signed affidavit from the deceased volunteer rescue squad worker's rescue squad unit containing the following:
 - (a) Confirmation of the deceased's volunteer status as a volunteer rescue squad worker trained in emergency and rescue work pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-51-207;
 - (b) Name of the rescue squad unit;
 - (c) Date of death; and
 - (d) A statement from the deceased volunteer rescue squad worker's unit that the decedent's death occurred "in the line of duty."
4. A true copy of the deceased volunteer rescue squad worker's death certificate, or in the Commissioner's or designee's discretion, a copy of a true copy.

Please submit the application, affidavit, and required documentation to:

Commissioner of Commerce & Insurance
ATTN: Robert Wright, Chief of Fiscal Services
Department of Commerce & Insurance
Davy Crockett Building, 11th Floor
500 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Questions concerning applications or payments should be directed to the Department's Chief of Fiscal Services, Robert Lee Wright, at (615) 532-0521 or Robert.Lee.Wright@tn.gov.